



State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives
403 Seventh Avenue North
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0312

TENNESSEE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
(Tennessee Industrial School)
RECORDS
1886-1920

RECORD GROUP
295

Processed by:

John-Paul Richiuso
Archival Technical Services

Date completed: January 24, 2003

MICROFILMED

INTRODUCTION

This collection of records for the Tennessee Preparatory School, Record Group 295, consists of 20 bound volumes of records covering the years 1886-1920, when the school was then known as the Tennessee Industrial School. The collection consists of 13 bound volume journals that list the school's students alphabetically by gender; 6 volumes referred to as "county ledgers"; and a ledger of daily admissions and removals. There is a partial restriction (see below). Single copies may be made for individual or scholarly research.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection of twenty bound volumes from the Tennessee Preparatory School record student information for the years 1886-1920. The volumes are broken down into four components: ten volumes of "Boy's Journals," 1886-1917; three volumes of "Girl's Journals," 1891-1919; six volumes of "County Ledgers"; and a one volume "Record of Daily Admissions," 1909-1919.

Information recorded in both the Boy's and Girl's Journals consists of: Date of Commitment; Cause of Commitment; Court; Form of Commitment; Birth; Age; Parentage (i.e., American, Jewish, etc.); Family History; Education; Employment; Religion; Cause of Delinquency; General Description; When and how Released; Physical Condition; and General Remarks.

The County Ledgers are a census of students broken down by the county from which they came. The Record of Daily Admissions is what it says it is; a record of students admitted to the school, that also records those students removed from the school.

NOTE ON RESTRICTION:

The student records in this collection are from 1919 and before, and therefore beyond the presumptive seventy (70) year period of confidentiality for such records [Cf. TCA §10-7-504, Sec. (a)(4) and (a)(21)]. However, since there are occasional references in the records of individual students to mental health and adoption, access to these records will need to be screened by TSLA archivists. Anyone wishing to inspect or copy a student record from this record group will need to provide a Public Service archivist with the individual's name so that the record can be checked for said confidential information before copies are made. Microfilm of Record Group 295 will not go out on Interlibrary Loan or be generally available in Public Service.

AGENCY HISTORY

The Tennessee Preparatory School began as the brainchild of Davidson County Judge John C. Ferris. The Nashville cholera epidemic of 1873 caused scores of children to become orphans or abandoned children when one or both parents stricken by the epidemic ultimately died. At the time, the jurisdiction of the court extended to orphans, legitimations, adoptions, name changes, binding of apprentices, general supervision of county charitable institutions, and provision for the poor and unfortunate. During the epidemic the local press took up the subject of providing homes for these children and Judge Ferris began to get requests from potential adoptive parents for children of all ages and both sexes. While the demand for adoptees was great, Judge Ferris soon realized that there were far more needy children than could be adopted and that an institution, especially for boys, was needed.

After several attempts to get the State legislature to authorize a bill for the development of such an institution one was passed, and with the financial aid of Colonel Edmund W. Cole and others, 106 acres of land with buildings was purchased. In 1885 a Board of Directors was appointed, officers were elected, and a superintendent hired. The school was named the Randell Cole Industrial School in honor of Colonel Cole's recently deceased son.

Professor W. C. Kilvington, employed as the school's first superintendent, served the institution through the change in 1887, when the State began operating the school as the Tennessee Industrial School, until his retirement in 1918.

When the school was first operated by the State, it was under the jurisdiction of the Tennessee State Board of Directors. From 1915 until 1919 the school was under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Control; from 1923 until 1935 the school was under the jurisdiction of the Department of Institutions; and from 1935 until 1947, the school was under the jurisdiction of the Tennessee State Department of Education.

In 1947 the school came under the jurisdiction of the State Board of Education, and in 1955 the State legislature changed its name to the Tennessee Preparatory School. In 1996, under State Senate Bill 3176, the school, along with all other State services to children, was placed under the newly created Department of Children's Services.

Information for the introduction was gleaned from:

Tyree, Forrest Hill. *A Centennial History of the Tennessee Preparatory School*. Nashville Printing and Office Supply. 1985. TSLA call number: LC 4092.T35T97

Additional information on the school can be found in:

Danley, Elzie. *Evaluative Study of Tennessee Preparatory School, March 20, 21, 22, 1974*. Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. 1974. TSLA call number: LC 4092.T35T2 1974a

Tennessee Department of Education. Status Report: *Tennessee Preparatory School*. State of Tennessee, Department of Education. 1974. TSLA call number: LC4092.T35T2 1974c 1-2

Tennessee Department of Education. *Tennessee Preparatory School: Interim Report*. State of Tennessee, Department of Education. 1972. TSLA call number: LC4092.T35T2 1972

Tennessee Industrial School. *The Beacon*. 1935. TSLA call number: LC4092.T2B4

CONTAINER LIST

Microfilm Roll #1

BOYS' JOURNALS

BOX 1

Bound Volume 1886-1887—Typed index: John Abbuchi-Edwin Zimmerman

BOX 2

Bound Volume 1886-1890—Typed index: Allen Allsbrook-Ed Zimmerman

Microfilm Roll #2

BOX 3

Bound Volume 1887-1896—Typed index: Allen Allsbrook-Ed Zimmerman

BOX 4

Bound Volume 1895-1898—Typed index: Earl Allsbrook-Aaron Yracker

Microfilm Roll #3

BOX 5

Bound Volume 1898-1902—Typed index: Samuel Anderson-Thomas Yost

BOX 6

Bound Volume 1891-1893—Tab index: Binton Burton-Robert M. Young

Microfilm Roll #4

BOX 7

Bound Volume 1902-1907—Typed index: J. B. Scott Alwider-Turner Young

Microfilm Roll #5

BOX 8

Bound Volume 1907-1911—Typed index: James Allen-Collis Zemer

Microfilm Roll #6

BOX 9

Bound Volume 1911-1915—Typed index: James R. Albert-Willie Zeck

Microfilm Roll #7

BOX 10

Bound Volume 1915-1917—Typed index: Grant Archler-Harry Zeitlan

GIRLS' JOURNALS

BOX 11

Bound Volume 1891-1902—Typed index: Minnie Adams-Mamie Wesmoreland

Microfilm Roll #8

BOX 12

Bound Volume 1902-1911—Typed index: Mamie Adams-Mary Zachary

BOX 13

Bound Volume 1911-1919—Typed index: Eva Adams-Alice Youngblood

COUNTY LEDGERS

Microfilm Roll #9

BOX 14

Bound Volume 1887-1896

Bound Volume 1889-1892

Bound Volume 1898-1900

Bound Volume 1904-1916

Bound Volume 1909-1918

Bound Volume 1912-1920

RECORD of DAILY ADMISSIONS

BOX 15

Bound Volume 1909-1919

State of Tennessee



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TENNESSEE PREPARATORY SCHOOL RECORDS **1886-1920** **RG 295**

ROLLS

1. Scope and Contents, Box 1, Volume 1886-1887 thru Box 2, Volume 1886-1890.
2. Box 3, Volume 1887-1896 thru Box 4, Volume 1895-1898.
3. Box 5, Volume 1898-1902 thru Box 6, Volume 1891-1893.
4. Box 7, Volume 1902-1907.
5. Box 8, Volume 1907-1911.
6. Box 9, Volume 1911-1915.
7. Box 10, Volume 1915-1917 thru Box 11, Volume 1891-1902.
8. Box 12, Volume 1902-1911 thru Box 13, Volume 1911-1919.
9. Box 14, Volume 1887-1896 thru Box 15, Volume 1909-1919.

March 7, 2003
35mm Film



STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
TENNESSEE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
1200 Foster Avenue
Nashville, TN 37210

TO: Jay Richiuso
FROM: Bill Boner
DATE: December 30, 2002
SUBJECT: Historical Records at TPS

This letter is to serve as the official notification of the transferring of the following documents from Tennessee Preparatory School to the State Library and Archives. The large journals are admission records of students. The boys' journals are from 1886-1917. The girls' journals are from 1891-1919. There is an index in the front of each journal recording the students' names and page references. The following is the list of journal by dates with the first and last name on the inside index.

BOYS' JOURNALS:

1886-1890	typed index	Allen Allsbrook...Ed Zimmerman
1887-1896	typed index	Allen Allsbrook...Ed Zimmerman
1895-1898	typed index	Earl Allsbrook...Aaron Yracker
1898-1902	typed index	Samuel Anderson...Thomas Yost
1891-1893	tab index	Binton Burton...Robert M. Young
1902-1907	typed index	J.B. Scott Alwider...Turner Young
1907-1911	typed index	James Allen...Collis Zemer
1911-1915	typed index	James R. Albert...Willie Zeck
1915-1917	typed index	Grant Archler...Harry Zeitlan

GIRLS' JOURNALS:

1891-1902	typed index	Minnie Adams...Mamie Wesmoreland
1902-1911	typed index	Mamie Adams...Mary Zachary
1911-1919	typed index	Eva Adams...Alice Youngblood

The smaller ledgers are names of students recorded by their home counties. They include the following:

County Ledgers:

1889-1892
1887-1896
1898-1900
1904-1916
1912-1920

Another ledger contains the records of daily admissions and daily removals from 1909 through 1919.

CC: Marva Bradford
Lloyd Smith

From: Bill Boner
To: Bradford, Marva; Richiuso, Jay; Smith, Lloyd
Date: 12/31/02 8:15AM
Subject: Historical records at TPS

This my letter to serve as the transferring document. I talked to Lloyd Smith and this should suffice. If I need to do anything else, please let me know. I will deliver the records to Jay as soon as he calls me to set a time. I want to thank everyone involved in helping me to get these records to the State Library and Archives.

CC: Burton, Leonard